

X.—*Notes on a Collection of Birds from the Solomon Islands, with Descriptions of new Species.* By H. B. TRISTRAM, F.R.S.

(Plates III., IV., V.)

I HAVE lately received a very interesting collection of birds made by Lieut. Richards, R.N., when surveying last year in the Solomon Archipelago. The collection contains examples of 35 species, most of them collected in the hitherto unexplored islands of Rendova, or Hammond Island, and Ugi. On first examination of the skins I pronounced twelve of them to belong to new species. But I soon afterwards received from Mr. E. P. Ramsay a separate copy of his paper in the Journal of the Linnean Society of New South Wales for February last, in which that gentleman has described five of these species\*, collected, I believe, by the Rev. G. Brown; and in a paper read at a Meeting of the Linnean Society (of London) on the 3rd of November last, Mr. Ramsay has described from the same source two more of these species†. Of the twelve species, therefore, which have now reached England for the first time, there remain five to be described.

I now proceed to give the complete list of the collection, which adds much to our knowledge of the avifauna of these almost virgin islands.

### 1. *BAZA REINWARDTI*, Müll.

Two adult specimens in the collection are thus determined by Mr. Gurney. Mr. E. P. Ramsay, however, in his paper read before the Linnean Society, discriminates the Solomon-Island bird as a distinct species, to which he gives the name of *Baza gurneyi*.

*Hab.* Russell Island, Solomons.

### 2. *UROSPIZIAS ALBIGULARIS*, G. R. Gr.

One immature male specimen taken at Makira Harbour, San Christoval. The adult is figured in Brenchley's 'Voyage of the Curaçoa.'

This is the same species as my *Astur* sp. ? (Ibis, 1879, p. 437).

[\* See below, p. 172.—EDD.]

† See Journ. Proc. Linn. Soc. Zool. xvi. p. 128.

3. *CAPRIMULGUS NOBILIS*, sp. nov. (Plate III.)

*C. atro-fuscus*, nigro minute vermiculatus; capite et occipite striis nigris elongatis insignibus, gula cinnamomeo maculata; fascia gulari alba interrupta; pectore fusco lineis nigris striato; humeris et tectricibus alaribus brunneo-umbrinis, quaque pluma insigni annulo albicante terminata; alarum primariis nigris, tertia maculam albam, quarta vittam interruptam in secunda vix videndam ostendente; secundariis nigris rufo maculatis; tectricibus subalaribus et abdomine castaneis, brunneo transversim striatis; cauda nigra, fasciis latis fuscis vermiculatis interrupta; rectricibus duabus externis castaneo fasciatis, eodemque modo omnibus rectricibus subtus rufo fasciatis. Long tot. 12, alæ 8·75, caudæ 6·2.

*Hab.* Rendova Island, Solomons, 18th August, 1880.

This splendid Goatsucker comes nearest to *C. macrurus*, from which, however, it may be at once distinguished by its very much larger size and its rich dark coloration. The annular spotting of the shoulders is very conspicuous and beautiful. Unfortunately only a single specimen (female) is contained in the collection.

4. *DENDROCHELIDON MYSTACEA*, Less.

*Hab.* Rendova and San Christoval islands.

There is a young bird in an interesting stage of plumage. It is full-grown; but the forehead and scapulars are dappled with chestnut, the feathers of the white wing-patch tipped with rufous, the throat and breast rufous with white terminal patches on each feather, and the abdomen white faintly barred with rufous. The black rectrices are narrowly tipped with rufous.

✓ 5. *HALCYON ALBICILLA*, Cuv.

*Hab.* Rendova Island.

6. *HALCYON SANCTA*, Vig. & Horsf.

*Hab.* Rendova and Ugi islands.

7. *ALCYONE RICHARDSI*, sp. nov. (Plate IV.)

*A. rostro nigro, capite cæruleo, fronte nigricantiore; macula inter rostrum et oculos et macula postoculari albis; dorso et cauda ultramarinis; secundariis superioribus cæruleo lavatis; remigibus nigris; gula et thorace albis; torque*



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CAPRIMULGUS NOBILIS.



J. L. K. Williams, Jr.

ALCYONE RICHARDSI.

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pectoralis et lateribus ultramarinis; abdomine albo, crisso cæruleo, pedibus nigris. Long. tot. 4·9, alæ 2·15, caudæ 1·2, rostri a rictu 1·45.

*Hab.* Rendova Island, Solomons.

This species may be at once distinguished from *A. pusilla* by its smaller size, much larger bill, the richer and lighter hue of its coloration, and the broad pectoral band. In size and proportions it closely resembles *A. beryllina*, but is indigo instead of sky-blue.

8. CINNYRIS FRENATA, Mull.

*Hab.* Ugi Island.

9. MYZOMELA PULCHERRIMA, Ramsay.

*Myzomela pulcherrima*, Ramsay, Journ. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, Feb. 1881.

*Hab.* Ugi Island.

This fine and distinct species may be distinguished from all others, and especially from its nearest congener, *M. nigri-ventris*, by the scarlet of the breast descending to the lower flanks and abdomen.

10. ZOSTEROPS RENDOVÆ, sp. nov.

This bird has been already described by Mr. Ramsay (Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. Feb. 1881) as *Tephras olivaceus*, sp. nov. Whether the characteristics of the genus *Tephras*, as laid down by Hartlaub, are sufficient to separate it from *Zosterops* may be open to doubt; but this bird agrees with *Zosterops* and not with *Tephras* in the chief point of distinction, having a square and not a rounded tail, while the absence of the white ring feathers and the shape of the bill are common to many species of *Zosterops*. There being already a *Z. olivacea*, I have felt it necessary to substitute another name for this very interesting species, which is of a rich uniform olive-colour above on the back and flanks, with olive-brown cheeks, and lemon-yellow underparts and lower tail-coverts.

*Hab.* Rendova Island, Solomons.

11. POMAREA CASTANEIVENTRIS (Verr.).

The habitat of this bird, previously known only by the type specimen in the British Museum, without locality,

remained unascertained until a single specimen was sent home last year by Lieut. Richards. The present collection contains several specimens, one of them a female, now in the British Museum. The general colour of the female is dull, not glossy, black, as in the male, and the chestnut of the underparts is not so bright.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

12. *POMAREA UGIENSIS*, Ramsay.

*Pomarea ugiensis*, Ramsay, Journ. Proc. Linn. Soc. Nov. 1881.

*Hab.* Ugi Island.

This fine species, apparently the representative of the genus in Ugi, as *P. castaneiventris* is in the neighbouring island of San Christoval, is the largest of the group, and of a uniform glossy resplendent black. There is no distinction between the sexes in plumage, a striking contrast to the extraordinary difference of the sexes in the third species of the genus, *P. nigra*, of the Society and Marquesas Islands.

13. *POMAREA RICHARDSI*.

*Piezorhynchus richardsii*, Ramsay, Journ. Linn. Soc. N. S. Wales, Feb. 1881.

*Hab.* Rendova Island.

This brilliant bird is certainly a typical *Pomarea*, and in measurements and general form comes extremely close to *P. castaneiventris*. It has the same chestnut lower parts; but the occiput, nape, hind neck, and ring round the eye are of a pure white, in strong contrast with the rest of its plumage.

14. *PIEZORHYNCHUS SQUAMULATUS*, sp. nov.

♂. *P. capite nigro resplendente, fascia alba circum collum a latere thoracis; dorso nigro; uropygio late albo; cauda nigra, rectricibus tribus externis albo terminatis; tectricibus superioribus medialiter nigris, macula alba ad apicem nigro marginata instructis; tectricibus majoribus albis, nigro marginatis in pogonio externo, duas fascias albas ostendentibus; remigibus nigris, duabus maculis albis ad extremum secundariorum; mento et thorace nigris, fascia pectorali quasi squamosa, plumis ad basin nigris macula alba tetragona nigro marginata; pectore,*

abdomine, subalaribus et crisso albis; tarsi et pedibus plumbeis, rostro nigro. Long. tot. 6·45, alæ 3·12, caudæ 2·9, tarsi ·8, rostri a rictu ·75.

*Hab.* Ugi Island.

This species belongs to the same group as *P. verticalis*, but is still closer to *P. vidua* of San Christoval, from which it may be at once distinguished by its larger size and the spangled diamond cincture on its throat.

15. *MYIAGRA CERVINICAUDA*, Tristr.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

16. *RHIPIDURA RUSSATA*, Tristr.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

17. *EDOLIOSOMA SALOMONIS*, Tristr.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

18. *SYMMORPHUS AFFINIS*, Tristr.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

19. *PACHYCEPHALA ASTROLABI*, Bp.

*Hab.* Russell Island.

Of this rare bird there are five specimens in the collection—three mature males, one male in change, and one female.

20. *PACHYCEPHALA CHRISTOPHORI*, Tristr.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

Of this species there are one adult male, one male in change, and one female in the series.

21. *CALORNIS METALLICA*, Temm.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

22. *CALORNIS CANTOROIDES*, G. R. Gr.

*Hab.* San Christoval, Ugi Island.

23. *CALORNIS FULVIPENNIS*, Hombr. & Jacq.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

This bird does not appear to have been obtained since the 'Voyage au Pôle Sud' until collected by Lieut. Richards. It is a very well marked species, exactly intermediate in coloration between *Calornis* and *Aplonis*, having a lustrous

plumage on its body, with brown lustreless wings and tail. There are two specimens.

24. *LORIUS CHLOROCERCUS*, Gould.

*Hab.* Ugi Island.

The type specimen was from San Christoval.

25. *LORIUS CARDINALIS*, Hombr. & Jacq.

*Hab.* Guadalcanar.

26. *GEOFFROYUS HETEROCLITUS*, Hombr. & Jacq.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

27. *GEOFFROYUS AGRESTIS*, sp. nov.

*G.* capite, tergo, uropygio et cauda viridibus, spatio inter oculos et nares pallidiore; thorace, pectore, abdomine et crisso viridibus; rectricibus nigris, harum pogoniis externis viridi lavatis, internis flavo arcute marginatis; subalaribus cæruleis; cauda subtus flavida. Long. tot. 8·45, alæ 4·8, caudæ 2·25, tarsi ·5, dig. med. 1·2.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

One specimen, male adult. A plain and inconspicuous bird, apparently close to *G. simplex* (Meyer) from Mount Arfak. It differs, however, in the absence of the bluish collar and in its very much smaller dimensions, the wing being nearly 2 inches shorter, and the other measurements in proportion.

28. *NASITERNA FINSCHI*.

*Nasiterna finschi*, Ramsay, Journ. Linn. Soc. N.S.W. Feb. 1881.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

This bird, recently described by Mr. Ramsay, is a very distinct species, wholly grass-green on the upper parts and flanks, with a tinge of yellow on the forehead and abdomen, and the under tail-coverts bright yellow. There is a little pink patch on either side of the lower mandible—a very marked characteristic, which has been overlooked by Mr. Ramsay in his description. The tail-feathers have a conspicuous yellow spot on the inner web.

29. *CHALCITES PLAGOSUS*, Lath.

*Hab.* Russell Island.





PTILOPEUS RHODOSTICTUS

30. *PTILOPUS EUGENIÆ*, Gould.

*Hab.* Ugi Island.

Of this superb Fruit-pigeon, to my eye by far the finest of the whole of this gorgeous genus, and hitherto known only by the type in the British Museum (mutilated, tailless, and with only one wing), there are three specimens. Although marked as of different sexes, they are identical in plumage; and from Mr. Ramsay's remarks, he having seen what he considers to be the female, I cannot but suspect there has been some mistake and that all our specimens are adult males. This bird has never yet been figured; and I trust that an opportunity will soon be afforded for an illustration of so remarkable and beautiful a species.

31. *PTILOPUS CERASEIPECTUS*, Tristram.

*Hab.* San Christoval.

Two specimens, both female.

32. *PTILOPUS RHODOSTICTUS*, sp. nov. (Plate V.)

*P.* pileo pallidissime vinaceo, post oculos cingula flava arcte cincto; mento delicatissime flavo; occipite, collo toto, gutture, pectore et lateribus sulphurescenti-viridibus; abdomine, ventre et subcaudalibus intense rubro-aurantiacis; dorso, tergo et uropygio flavo-virescentibus, medio cujusque plumæ scapularis rosaceo picto; pogonio interno remigis externi item rosaceo; remigibus in externo pogonio viridi metallico resplendentibus, in pogonio interno nigris; remige primo attenuato, secundariis anguste flavo marginatis; cauda viridi, apice late flava. Long. tot. 8·8, alæ 5·1, caudæ 3·25, rostri a rictu ·57.

*Hab.* Ugi Island, Solomons. ♂. 14th Sept. 1880.

There are two specimens, both males (one immature), of this lovely Pigeon. The younger bird is almost without the rose spots on the wing-coverts. I have long been looking for this bird. Four years ago I received from Mr. Layard a solitary wing, with the remarkable rose spots, which he had obtained from the skipper of a coasting trader, who could not inform him from which of the Solomon Islands the bird came. While certain it was new, we could scarcely describe a bird from a solitary wing, though the feat has been performed from an egg by more than one ornithologist!

33. *ESACUS MAGNIROSTRIS*, Geoffr.

*Hab.* Rendova Island.

34. *RALLUS PECTORALIS* (pullus?).

*Hab.* San Christoval.

35. *STERNA BERGII*, Licht.

*Hab.* Rendova Island.

This may be a good opportunity of summarizing our existing knowledge of the avifauna of the Solomon Islands.

When Mr. Sclater wrote his first paper on the birds of the Solomon Islands (P. Z. S. 1869, pp. 118, seq.) there were known the ten species mentioned in the 'Voyage au Pôle Sud,' which must be reduced to eight by the rejection of *Myzomela solitaria*, and *Pionias cyaniceps*, which is female of *P. heteroclitus*. Four more species had been described by Mr. Gould from the voyage of the 'Rattlesnake;' and to these seven more were added by Mr. G. R. Gray in his Catalogue of the Birds of the Tropical Islands, one of which, *Halcyon cinnamomina*, requires confirmation. Mr. Sclater had subsequently (P. Z. S. 1865, p. 620) added *Nasiterna pusio*, a new species; about the habitat of this species, however, I cannot but suspect some mistake, as it has since been received repeatedly from Duke-of-York Island, but never from the Solomons\*. Mr. Sclater, in the paper referred to above, brought up the known species of the Solomon Islands to 34, rejecting three, *Halcyon cinnamomina*, *H. sancta*, and *Nycticorax manillensis* (the two latter of which must now be admitted), and admitting three, *Myzomela solitaria*, *Todiramphus chloris*, and *Nasiterna pusio* (which I would reject).

In 1870 Mr. G. R. Gray described (Ann. & Mag. N. H. ser. 4, vol. v. p. 328) *Ptilopus solomonensis*, *Carpophaga brenchleyi*, and three others.

In Brenchley's 'Cruise of the Curaçoa,' A.D. 1873, the same author corrected *Philemon vulturinus* to *P. sclateri*, sp. nov.

In 1876 Mr. R. B. Sharpe described (P. Z. S. p. 673) *Ninox*

[\* I quite agree with Canon Tristram that the supposed habitat of *Nasiterna pusio*, which I gave on the authority of the late Mr. Krefft, is, in all probability, wrong.—P. L. S.]

*solomonis*, from these Islands, which, however, Mr. Sclater subsequently showed (P. Z. S. 1878, p. 290) to be the same as *Athene variegata*, Q. & G.

From this date I cannot find any additional contribution to our ornithological knowledge of the Solomons till, in 1879, Mr. E. P. Ramsay (Proc. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. iv. p. 65) recorded from Cockerell's collection 45 species, of which he described eight as new.

In the same year I reported in 'The Ibis' (p. 437) on a collection made by Lieut. Richards, R.N., of 33 species, of which I described 12 as new. One of these, *Carpophaga richardsi*, had already been described by Count Salvadori as *C. rufigula*.

In 'The Ibis,' 1880, pp. 126, et seq. Prof. Salvadori criticised the papers of Mr. Ramsay and myself, and made some valuable suggestions, to which I replied (Ibis, 1880, p. 246), supporting several of the new species.

In the Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, Feb. 1881, Mr. E. P. Ramsay described six new species from Lieut. Richards's collection; and at the Linnean Society's Meeting, Nov. 3, 1881, he has described five more, two of which I have not seen.

In the present paper I have added six species to the list. After erasing those species which have been confounded with others or subsequently withdrawn, the following table gives a *résumé* of our present knowledge of the avifauna of the Solomon Islands:—

#### ACCIPITRES.

1. *Urospizias albigularis*. San Christoval.
2. *Astur pulchellus*, E. P. Ramsey; olim *A. soloensis*, sed fide Salvadori = *Urospizias etorques*. Cape Pitt.
3. *Baza reinwardti*, fide E. P. Ramsay = *B. gurneyi*, sp. nov.
4. *Haliastur girrenera*. San Christoval.
5. *Athene taniata*. St. George.
6. *A. variegata*.
7. *N. punctulata* (fide E. P. Ramsay; sed qu. Salvadori?). Guadalcanar.

## PASSERES.

8. *Myzomela lafargei*.
9. *M. pulcherrima*. Ugi Island.
10. *M. pammelæna*. San Christoval.
11. *M. tristrami* (?).
12. *Philemon sclateri*. San Christoval.
13. *Zosterops rendovæ*. Rendova Island.
14. *Cinnyris frenata*. Guadalcanar.
15. *Dicaeum ancum*. San Christoval, St. George.  
(? *D. erythrothorax*. Guadalcanar.)
16. *Hirundo tahitica*. San Christoval, Guadalcanar.
17. *Rhipidura russata* (= *rufofrontata*, Ramsay). San Christoval, Guadalcanar.
18. *R. tricolor*. San Christoval, Guadalcanar.
19. *R. cockerelli* (? spec.; cf. Salvadori). Guadalcanar.
20. *Myiagra cervinicauda*. San Christoval.
21. *M. ferro-cyanea*. Guadalcanar.  
(*M. pallida*. Guadalcanar. ?)
22. *Monarcha brodei*. Guadalcanar.
23. *Piezorhynchus vidua*. San Christoval.
24. *P. squamulatus*. Ugi Island.
25. *Pomarea richardsi*. Rendova Island.
26. *P. castaneiventris*. San Christoval.
27. *P. ugiensis*. Ugi Island.
28. *Graucalus sublineatus*. San Christoval.
29. *G. monotonus*. San Christoval.
30. *G. hypoleucus* (? , Salvadori). Guadalcanar.
31. *G. dussumieri* (? , Salvadori). Guadalcanar.
32. *G. pusillus*. Guadalcanar.
33. *G. elegans*. Guadalcanar.
34. *Edoliosoma marescoti*.
35. *E. salomonis*. San Christoval.
36. *Symmorphus affinis*. San Christoval.
37. *Dicrurus megarhynchus*.
38. *Pachycephala astrolabi*. Russell Island, Guadalcanar, St. George.
39. *P. christophori*. San Christoval.
40. *Gracula kreffti*. San Christoval, Guadalcanar.



41. *Calornis metallica*. San Christoval.
42. *C. cantoroides*. Savo.
43. *C. fulvipennis*. Guadalcanar, Isabel.

#### PICARIÆ.

44. *Caprimulgus nobilis*. Rendova Island.
45. *Collocalia fuciphaga*. San Christoval.
46. *C. hypoleuca*. Ugi Island.
47. *Dendrochelidon mystacea*. San Christoval, Ugi.
48. *Eurystomus crassirostris*. San Christoval, Ugi Island, Guadalcanar, Savo.
49. *Halcyon albicilla*. Ugi Island.
50. *H. sanctus*. San Christoval, Guadalcanar, Savo.
51. *H. julia*. San Christoval.
52. *H. leucopygia*. Guadalcanar.
53. *Alcyon richardsii*. Rendova Island.
54. *Ceyx gentiana*. San Christoval.
55. *Buceros ruficollis*.
56. *Chalcites plagosus*. Russell Island, Savo.
57. *Eudynamis taitensis*, Savo.
58. *Centropus milo*. Guadalcanar.
59. *C. ater-albus*.

#### PSITTACI.

60. *Cacatua ducorpsii*. Guadalcanar, Savo.
61. *C. goffini*.
62. *Nasiterna finschi*. San Christoval.
63. *N. pusio*. (? locality.)
64. *Eclectus polychlorus*. San Christoval, Savo.
65. *Lorius chlorocercus*. Ugi Island, San Christoval, Savo.
66. *L. hypænochrous*.
67. *L. cardinalis*. Guadalcanar, Russell Island, Savo.
68. *Geoffroyus heteroclitus*. San Christoval, St. George, Isabel, Savo.
69. *G. agrestis*. San Christoval.
70. *Trichoglossus massenæ*. San Christoval.
71. *Charmosyne margarethæ*. San Christoval.

## COLUMBÆ.

72. *Ptilopus eugeniæ*. Ugi Island.  
 73. *P. ceraseipectus*. San Christoval.  
 74. *P. rhodostictus*. Ugi Island.  
 75. *P. superbus*. Guadalcanar.  
 76. *P. viridis*?  
 (? *P. solomonensis*, G. R. Gr.)  
 77. *Carpophaga pistrinaria*. Guadalcanar, San Christoval.  
 78. *C. rufigula*. San Christoval, Savo.  
 79. *C. rubricera*. San Christoval.  
 80. *C. finschii*.  
 81. *C. brenchleyi*. San Christoval.  
 82. *Macropygia crassirostris*. Guadalcanar.  
 83. *M. crossi*. San Christoval.  
 84. *Phlegænas johannæ* (?). San Christoval.  
 85. *Chalcophaps chrysochlora* (?). Guadalcanar.

## GALLINÆ.

86. *Megapodius brenchleyi*. Savo.

## STEGANOPODES.

87. *Sula fusca*. Savo.  
 88. *Phaethon flavirostris*, Savo.

## GRALLÆ.

89. *Esacus magnirostris*. San Christoval, Ugi, Russell Island.  
 90. *Limosa baueri*. San Christoval.  
 91. *Tringoides hypoleucus*. In all the islands.  
 92. *Rallus intactus*.  
 93. *R. pectoralis*. San Christoval, Guadalcanar.

## HERODIONES.

94. *Ardea sacra*. San Christoval.  
 95. *Butorides javanica*, Savo.

## GAVIÆ.

96. *Sterna bergii*. Rendova and Ugi Islands.  
 97. *S. lunata*.  
 98. *S. gracilis*. Savo.

I have not included in the above list specimens only recorded from Banks's Island.

I have omitted species which seem to have been mistaken for others already enumerated; and I have put a point of doubt after the names of those species the identification of which does not appear to me to be satisfactory. I think it probable, so far as one can form an opinion without having seen the type, that *Ninox punctulata* is represented by the species which precedes it.

I have not seen the type of *Myzomela tristrami*, which Mr. Ramsay has done me the honour to name after me; but I can assure him that my specimen of *M. pammelana*, still in my cabinet, has the bill glossy black, and is evidently an adult bird.

*Rhipidura cockerelli* has been questioned by Prof. Salvadori as being only an accidental variety of *R. tricolor*. I have not seen the type.

*Graucalus hypoleucus* is questioned by Prof. Salvadori, who considers that the species must be *G. sclateri*. He also demurs to the Philippine species *G. dussumieri* being found here, and suggests, with much probability, that the species, the name of which Mr. Ramsay subsequently (Pr. Linn. Soc. N. S. W. 1879, p. 314) changed from *G. pusillus* to *G. salomonensis*, is really the bird intended. Prof. Salvadori believes it to be identical with *G. sublineatus*. As I have not seen Mr. Ramsay's types, I can offer no opinion.

As stated above, the locality of *Nasiterna pusio* seems to me to require confirmation.

*Ptilopus viridis*.—The description given by Mr. Ramsay scarcely corresponds with the New-Guinea bird, though not far from it. It is probably a distinct species, and may be so described by Mr. Ramsay when he has had an opportunity of comparing his bird with specimens of *P. geelvinkianus* and *P. viridis*. I can conceive an immature male of *P. eugenia* meeting his description.

*Ptilopus solomonensis*, G. R. Gr., cannot stand as a species. It rests on a female which may belong to any one of three

species in which there are no differentiating characteristics in the corresponding females.

*Phlegænas johannæ* rests on a female collected by Lieut. Richards. On examining the specimens in the British Museum and in the collection of Capt. Wardlaw-Ramsay, I find that a mistake has been made with some of the British-Museum specimens, and that a bird labelled *P. johannæ* must belong to *P. margarethæ*. Possibly, therefore, the *Phlegænas* of the Solomons may be another species of which we have not yet obtained the male.

Though Mr. Ramsay gives *Chalcophaps chrysochlora* as from the Solomons, based on a female specimen, yet I have ventured to doubt the identification, believing that it will be found to be *C. stephani*, which is the indigenous species of the neighbouring islands.

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XI.—*Notes on a 'Catalogue of the Accipitres in the British Museum'* by R. Bowdler Sharpe (1874). By J. H. GURNEY.

[Continued from 'The Ibis,' 1881, p. 567.]

I HAVE NOW to refer to the two species which constitute the subgenus *Erythropus*, and which seem to me to form a distinct natural group intermediate between the true Kestrels and the Hobbies.

The two species of *Erythropus* are both of them gregarious and migratory; but their ordinary geographical ranges, except perhaps in South-west Africa, are very distinct.

The western species, *E. vespertinus*, is an inhabitant, during the summer months, of Europe and Western Asia, arriving in the spring, and migrating in the autumn to Africa; it has, however, been recorded as also nesting in Algeria\*.

Mr. Sharpe, in his summary of the habitat of this species, does not refer to its occurrence either in Northern Europe or in Asia; but examples from Archangel are preserved in the British Museum (as noted by Mr. Sharpe in his list of the

\* Loche, *Expl. de l'Algérie*, Ois., vol. i. p. 70.